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18 January 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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*Panama: [President Chiari is not budging from the demand that the US promise to negotiate a new canal treaty as a quid pro quo for restoring diplomatic relations.]

[Yesterday afternoon he ordered all Panamanian diplomats home from Washington, and requested that all US diplomatic personnel, save consular officials, to leave Panama. Most US officials had, in fact, already departed because of persistent threats of being subjected to physical violence, and the rest are to be evacuated soon.]

[These threats are in line with the prevalent view that the present lull in violence will not last. The embassy has also noted that student and labor spokesmen are adhering rigidly to a tough line on the canal issue. Several public meetings set for the weekend could erupt into violently anti-American affairs.]

[Additional trouble is looming on the diplomatic front. Miguel Moreno, a former foreign minister noted for his bitterly anti-US views, has been appointed to be Panama's new ambassador to the OAS.]

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Cyprus: Circulation of atrocity stories may bring new violence on Cyprus.

New reports and pictures of recently exhumed bodies of Turkish Cypriots killed during the intercommunal fighting are being distributed in the Turkish community. There are indications that some were shot while their hands and feet were tied.

Some Turkish Cypriots are insisting on a settlement based on autonomy within a federal state. By this arrangement areas would be established to which Turkish Cypriots could move for greater protection.

At the London conference a committee, composed of three delegates from each of the two communities on Cyprus, has been established to consider substantive problems under the chairmanship of Commonwealth Relations Secretary Sandys. The working group will report from time to time to the plenary conference.

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Arab States: The chiefs-of-state conference on the Jordan waters issue achieved an exceptional rapport among the Arabs and boosted Nasir's prestige.

The conference evidently secured agreement on an essentially moderate approach to the Israeli problem--one of Nasir's prime purposes in calling it. A plan to deal with the Israeli diversion of the Jordan River appears to have been achieved--referred to in the communiqué as involving technical and military aspects. No details are available.

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Nasir also gave at least the appearance of conciliation by renewing diplomatic relations with King Husayn of Jordan. There is no sign as yet that the flattering attention he paid to King Saud has had any effect on ruptured Saudi-Egyptian relations.

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NOTES

*Ecuador: Rumors are circulating in Quito that Colonel Freile, the opportunistic air force representative in the ruling junta, may be ousted soon. The rumors apparently started when Freile failed to attend a junta meeting with ranking army officers on 15 January to consider what to do about the antiregime machinations of ex-President Arosemena. Freile, [redacted] has been tacitly cooperating with Arosemena. Freile is presently at a serious disadvantage because fuel contamination has grounded his jet aircraft. [redacted]

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Venezuela: The arrest by federal police of Communist Senator Pompeyo Marquez on 15 January is a damaging blow to the Venezuelan Communist Party (PCV) and its subversive apparatus. Marquez, who had been in hiding since last October, was the ranking member of the PCV at liberty and a primary contact between the Party and the Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN). His arrest, together with the current military drive against FALN guerrillas and the political bans against the PCV and allied groups, may help ease the pressures on President-elect Raul Leoni, whose inauguration is scheduled for early March. [redacted]

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Argentina-Cuba: A Peron emissary traveled from Spain to Cuba on 3 January, apparently invited by Premier Castro. [redacted]

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[redacted] Castro had asked Peron in late December to send to Havana immediately a trustworthy person to discuss "a matter of importance and urgency to both." Peron has been encouraging revolutionary activities in Argentina by various factions of the splintered Peronist movement, some of which favor Cuban aid, but which are internally divided on other issues. [redacted]

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE

The United States Intelligence Board, on 17 January 1964, approved the following national intelligence estimate:

SNIE 83. 2-64: "The Danger of Subversion in Honduras" [REDACTED]

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The Director, The Joint Staff

The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

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The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

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